

REMARKS**I. Introduction**

In response to the Office Action dated January 11, 2006, Applicants have amended claim 1 to overcome the claim objections. No new matter has been added. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

II. Claim Objections

Claim 1 has been objected to for allegedly having minor informalities. Applicants have amended claim 1 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. Specifically, the phrase “the image outputting device side” in lines 7 – 8 has been amended to recite “the selected image outputting device” and the phrase “the image outputting device” in lines 9 – 10 has been amended to recite “the selected image outputting device”. Withdrawal of this claim objection is respectfully requested.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0085447 to Katta. Claims 2, 4 – 6, and 8 – 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Katta. Applicants traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites, among other things, an image switching control means for sending image switching control data for selecting and controlling a desired device output. According to one embodiment of the invention, the switching control data includes instructions indicating which

image outputting device may be used to deliver an output stream over a specified channel. At least this feature is not disclosed or suggested by Katta.

Katta discloses an on-vehicle image display apparatus wherein a plurality of cameras capture images around the body of a car. Each camera collects images in a preset position and direction. The images are presented as a composite image and a user can touch a portion of the image to see that portion in detail. However, Katta does not disclose sending image switching control data for selecting and controlling a desired device from a plurality of image outputting devices, as recited in claim 1.

Thus, as anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102 requires that each element of the claim in issue be found, either expressly described or under principles of inherency, in a single prior art reference, *Kalman v. Kimberly-Clark Corp.*, 713 F.2d 760, 218 USPQ 781 (Fed. Cir. 1983), and at a minimum, Katta fails to disclose an image switching control means for sending image switching control data for selecting and controlling a desired device output, it is clear that Katta does not anticipate claim 1.

Claims 2 and 4 – 12 depend from claim 1. Under Federal Circuit guidelines, a dependent claim is nonobvious if the independent claim upon which it depends is allowable because all the limitations of the independent claim are contained in the dependent claims, *Hartness International Inc. v. Simplimatic Engineering Co.*, 819 F.2d at 1100, 1108 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Accordingly, as claim 1 is patentable for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all dependent claims are also in condition for allowance.

Furthermore, both the present application and Katta are commonly assigned to Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. Accordingly, Katta does not preclude patentability of claims 2, 4 – 6, and 8 – 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c). This is due to the fact that Katta represents § 102(e) prior art, and therefore cannot be utilized in a § 103 rejection.

IV. Conclusion

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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